

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/827,103

Examiner

Richard Edgar

Applicant(s)

DUBE ET AL.

Art Unit

3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/19/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20060829.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Colin Cini on 29 August 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification

The following paragraphs replace the prior versions:

[019] FIG. 5[[A]] is a perspective view of an alternate example of a spring pin.

[020] FIG. 6[[5B]] is a perspective view of yet another alternate example of a spring pin.

[030] A first example of a spring pin 66 is a hollow cylinder, split lengthwise by a single slot 86. Alternately, a spring pin 166 (shown in FIG. 5[[A]]) may include a single helical slot 186 or a spring pin 266 (shown in FIG. 6[[5B]]) may contain a coil 270 instead of a

slot. An outer diameter 88 of the spring pin 66 is slightly larger than the pocket width 70 prior to being received in the pocket 62. When the spring pin 66 is received in the pocket 62, the outer diameter 88 is compressed slightly to fit inside the pocket width 70. The received spring pin 66 exerts a compressive load that retains the lug 64 in the pocket 62, thus preventing excessive wear due to vibration and cyclic loading during operation.

The above changes to the specification correlate to drawing changes pre-approved by the examiner (see *In the Drawings*, below)

In the Claims

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. (Currently amended) The anti-rotation lock of claim 5[[6]], wherein:
said spring pin further comprises a hollow cylinder, split by a helical ~~slot is helical~~.

The above change to claim 7 overcomes an objection to claim 7 for failing to further limit claim 6, since a helical slot does not further limit a linear slot. The amendment is support by at least FIG. 5A.

In the Drawings

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

View number "5A" must be renumbered as -- 5 --.

View number "5B" must be renumbered as -- 6 --.

The reference numeral "65" in FIG. 2 must be -- 66 --.

In FIG. 5A, the reference numeral "188" must be deleted.

In FIG. 5B, the reference numeral "288" must be deleted.

The above changes to the drawings must be made in order for the drawings to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.84. Regarding the view numbers, consecutive Arabic numerals must be used, unless the views are partial views of one another (37 CFR §1.84(u)(1)). Regarding the replacement of numeral "65" with "66" and the deletion of "188" and "288", numerals "65", "188" and "288" are not mentioned in the description (37 CFR §1.84(p)(5)).

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention is deemed to be directed to an unobvious improvement over the invention patented in United States Patent No. 4,632,634 (Vinciguerra et al. hereinafter).

Vinciguerra et al. show an anti-rotation lock for preventing circumferential movement of a stator segment 1 in relation to a gas turbine engine case 3 to which it is mounted, comprising a pocket 8 disposed within the case at a location thereon proximate to the vane segment 1; a lug 5 received with the pocket and protruding inwardly from a surface of the case and engagable by the vane segment to prevent circumferential movement thereof with respect to the case; and a spring 9 received within the pocket and engaged with the lug to compressively retain (6,7) the lug within the pocket.

Vinciguerra et al. fail to fairly suggest the lock used on a split case wherein the lug protrudes inwardly from an inner surface of the split case, wherein the spring is a pin that retains the lug. And in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the casing of Vinciguerra et al. to be a split case wherein the lug protrudes inwardly therefrom and the lug being retained by a spring pin, as is required in all of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

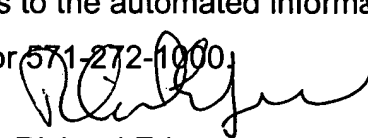
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Edgar whose telephone number is (571) 272-4816. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thur. and alternate Fri., 7 am- 5 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Richard Edgar
Examiner
Art Unit 3745

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